Institute of Medical Sciences is governed by the provisions of All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956 and rules and regulations made thereunder. There is no reported instances where the scientific and medical research and other specialized work of AIIMS was vitiated.

Polio spread due to inadequate vaccine

2644. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a recent finding by international experts stating that polio cases continue to be reported in India becuase the vaccine used in India is not targeting the specific polio strain prevalent in India;

(b) if so, whether in light of this finding, Government would propose to change the vaccine used in polio vaccination drives across India; and

(c) if so, the details of any other steps taken by Government to prevent the spread of polio virus in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) In a recent publication in the journal Science, it is stated that the vaccine used in most of the world and in India over last 20 years (the trivalent polio vaccine) which includes all strains (type-1, type-2 and type-3) may have somewhat lower effectiveness in some areas in India.

The Government was aware of the situation. Once the type-2 virus was eliminated and type-3 was restricted to small area, based on the advice of India Expert Advisory Group (IEAG) a monovalent Oral Polio Vaccine which has improved effectiveness against the type-1 virus is now being used.

(c) In order to prevent spread of polio virus following actions are being taken:

(i) Conducted consistent high quality supplementary immunization rounds in January, February, April, May, June, July, September and November, 2006 and planned national immunization rounds in the months of January and February, 2007.

(ii) Social mobilization activities are being intensified by involving the local influencers, community and religious leaders to improve community participation and acceptance of polio vaccine.

First Aid Post at the Central Secretariat

2645. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1859 given in the Rajya Sabha on 11th August, 2006 and state:

(a) the manpower in posting at the Central Secretariat First Aid Post, New Delhi, and to what extent it is in a position to meet the requirements of CGHS beneficiaries all over Delhi;

(b) whether Government considers feasible to allow use of private recognized hospitals for this purpose on the recommendations of the CMO of the dispensary or Government Specialist doctor; and

(c) if not, the justification thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The manpower in position at the Central Secretariat First Aid Post, New Delhi are as under:—

1.	Pathologist	1
2.	Medical Officer	3
3.	Lab technician	2
4.	Pharmacists	2
5.	Radiographer	1
6.	Dark Room Asst.	1
7.	Dresser	1
8.	Female Attendant	1
9.	Nursing Attendant	3
10.	Lab Attendant	1
11.	Safaiwala	2